21 OCT 1957
A.

DOLGELLEY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT
For the Year 1956

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

Medical Officer of Health:

EVAN RICHARDS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

IDWAL ROBERTS, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.,
C.M. & Food I.

DOLGELLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the District Medical Officer of Health for the year 1956

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DOLGELLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Health Report for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

The population figure estimated by the Registrar General again showed an increase, maintaining the trend of the previous year.

The number of live births was one fewer than in 1955 and there were 20 fewer deaths. Of the deaths, 15 were due to cancer, 3 fewer than in the previous year and of these only one was from cancer of the lung. There was one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis (4 in the previous year).

The majority of deaths were from diseases of the heart and circulatory system.

New cases of pulmonary tuberculosis numbered 4 compared with 11 in 1955.

There was no epidemic of notifiable infectious disease in 1956 apart from sporadic cases of measles and whooping cough.

There were no cases of food poisoning.

The housing survey was kept up to date and amended as improvements were completed and with regard to Slum Clearance satisfactory progress was made with individually unfit houses in the District.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,
EVAN RICHARDS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
District Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in Acres	158,942
Rateable Value	£63,609
Population (Registrar General's figures)	9,900
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£121:6:11
Number of inhabited houses (according to the Rate Books at end of year)	2,775

COMPARABILITY FACTORS:

Births	1.48
Deaths	1.03

VITAL STATISTICS

Nett Births (Live and Still)	96
Births (Live)	93
Births (Still)	3

LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION 9.39

LIVE BIRTHS: 93

	Males	Females
Total	45	48
Legitimate	44	48
Illegitimate	1	-

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births) 0.10

DEATHS:

Total Number 87

Males - 45 Females - 42

Rate per 1,000 population 8.78

1955 figures 11.81

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:

Total	Nil

	Males	Females
Total	-	-
Legitimate	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	Nil
1955 figures	10.64
Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Nil
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS:

	Males	Females
Total	-	-
Legitimate	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-

MATERNAL MORTALITY:

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy	Nil

DEATHS FROM CANCER:

Total - 15

Rate per 1,000 population	1.51
1955 figure	1.99

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS:

Total - 1

Rate per 1,000 population	0.1

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Public Health Inspector.
One Surveyor.

(2) LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Water analysis (Chemical) carried out by the Public Analyst, Chester.
Water (bacteriological) carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.
Milk (tests for cleanliness, for keeping quality and for tuberculosis) carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.
No charge is made on the L/A for these tests.

(3) AMBULANCE FACILITIES:

Three Ambulances stationed at Dolgelley. Transport for sick cases can easily and readily be obtained.

(4) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS:

Held at : Dyffryn Ardudwy - once a month.
Dolgelley - Wesleyan Chapel vestry every two weeks.
Abergynolwyn - at the Aelwyd building once a month.
Corris - at the Institute once a month.

(5) ANTE NATAL CLINICS:

At Dolgelley Hospital - two a month.

(6) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC:

At Dolgelley Hospital - two a month.

(7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC:

Held at the Dolgelley Hospital twice a month.

(8) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health. Immunisation of babies and young children is carried out at the Primary Schools.

(9) HOSPITALS:

One fully equipped hospital at Dolgelley.

(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 10

Scarlet Fever	-
Bacillary Dysentry	-
Whooping Cough	2
Measles	7
Infantile Paralysis	-
Meningococcal Infection	1

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES: 4.

Pulmonary: Total - 4
Males - 3 Females - 1
Non-Pulmonary: Total - Nil
Males - Nil Females - Nil

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS: 1

Pulmonary: Total - Nil
Males - Nil Females - Nil
Non-Pulmonary: Total - 1
Males - 1 Females - Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1956 IN AGE GROUPS

Age Periods	New cases: Respiratory		New cases: Non-Respiratory		Deaths: Respiratory		Deaths: Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15							1	
20	11							
25								
35		1						
45								
55	1							
65								
75								
Total -	12	1	-	-	-	-	1	-

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1956

	M	F
Tuberculosis Non Pulmonary	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	2	1
" Lungs	1	-
" Uterus	-	1
" Other sites	4	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	6
Coronary diseases, angina	2	3
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1
Other heart diseases	10	12
Other circulatory diseases	3	6
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum ...	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	-
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	1	-
Suicide	2	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Diabetes	-	3
	45	42

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was taken under the Act during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Houses - Public Health Acts			104
Houses - Housing Acts			231
Complaints investigated			24
Factories			1
Workshops			Nil
Infectious Disease Cases			Nil
Houses Disinfected			4
Petroleum Acts			9
Shops Acts			32
Interviews with Owners			91
Revisits to properties under notice or repair			84
Bakehouses			2
Butchers' Shops			3
Ice Cream Premises			26
Milk Samples (Schools)			13
Water Samples:			
Local Authority ...		93	
Private Supplies ...		7	
Hill Farming Schemes ...		21	121

Informal Notices served	19
Informal Notices complied with ...	17
Statutory Notices served, P.H.A. ...	Nil
Statutory Notices served, H.A. ...	Nil

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

Conversions into habitable dwellings	...	9
Extensive repairs (including rebuilding wall or roof, etc.)	...	27
Reconditioning etc. (Hill Farming Schemes)		10
New Drainage Units (do.)		16
New Water Supplies (do.)		11
Houses connected to L.A. Water Supplies		36
do. do. to L.A. Sewer Schemes		12
Conversion of Pail Closets to water carriage system	...	6
Repaired or made fit	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	9
Floors repaired, replaced, ventilated, etc.		8
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	...	11
Windows replaced, repaired, made to open, etc.		14
Food Stores or ventilated cupboards provided		8
Stairs replaced or repaired	...	2
Fire-grates renewed (modern type), repaired or renewed	...	6
Chimney stacks renewed or repaired	...	4
External walls repointed	...	14
Eaves gutters renewed, repaired, etc.	...	12
Dangerous walls repaired	...	2

DRAINS, WATER CLOSETS AND REFUSE ACCOMMODATION:

Obstructed drains cleaned	...	8
Obstructed W.C's. cleaned	...	4
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	10
Inspection covers renewed	...	Nil
W. C. Basins renewed	...	Nil

Other huisances:

Smoke	...	Nil
Animals kept (improperly)	...	Nil
Accumulations	...	Nil

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES

	Bacteriological		
	S	U	Total
Council Schemes	86	7	93
Private Supplies	5	2	7
Hill Farming	15	6	21
Proposed Schemes	10	10	20
	116	25	141

HOUSING PROGRESS

	Year	Traditional	Swedish	Total
Llanegryn	Pre-war	8	-	8
Dyffryn	1945	4	-	4
do.	1947	-	8	8
Abergynolwyn	1947	12	-	12
Llanegryn	1948	8	-	8
Brithdir	1948	-	4	4
Llwyngwril	1949	30	-	30
Talybont	1950	4	-	4
Bontddu	1951	8	-	8
Taicynhaeaf	1951	3	-	3
Dyffryn	1951	11	-	11
do.	1952	7	-	7
Rhoslefain	1952	12	-	12

HOUSING PROGRESS
(continued)

	Year	Traditional	Swedish	Total
Llanfachreth	1953	7	-	7
Llanelltyd	1953	10	-	10
do.	1954	9	-	9
Llanfachreth	1954	7	-	7
Arthog	1955	6	-	6
Llanelltyd	1955	4	-	4
Corris	1955	15	-	15
Llanelltyd	1956	3	-	3
Ganllwyd	1956	8	-	8
		176	12	188
Pennal		-	6	6
		176	18	194

OUTSTANDING SEWER SCHEMES

Extension Friog to Fairbourne.

Village of Arthog.

" " Brithdir.

" " Rhydymain.

" " Dinas Mawddwy and Minllyn.

" " Mallwyd (hamlet).

" " Aberangell.

Part village of Lower Corris.

" " " Upper Corris.

Village of Talybont.

Rivers and Streams:

There are no industries in the district to pollute the rivers and streams but there are some careless individuals who insist on throwing tins and refuse into the streams. Warning notices are posted in some localities to cease this undesirable custom but it is difficult to achieve.

Refuse Collection:

The Council have provided a satisfactory covered lorry, the necessary staff and a number of refuse disposal sites and undertakes by direct labour the scavenging of the scattered built-up villages and houses on route through-

out the 13 parishes, which involves approximately 320 miles per week. The scheme has now been extended to include the Parish of Pennal. Twice weekly collections are made in the Corris, Abergynolwyn and Llanegryn areas.

Smoke Abatement:

No action was taken in this respect during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools:

There are no public nor privately owned swimming baths open to the public.

Eradication of Bugs:

No action was necessary during the year.

Meat and Food Inspection:

No animals were slaughtered for human consumption in the area. The slaughtering is carried out at the abattoir in the Dolgelley Urban District.

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption include the following:-

Corned Beef - 6 lbs.

Ice Cream Premises:

Number of manufacturing retailers registered	Nil
Number of Retailers registered	24

Clean Food Campaign (Food and Drugs Act, 1938):

The model by-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and adopted by the Council are in operation and are having effective results.

Bakehouses:

These are small in number and subject to periodical inspection. They are kept clean and are limewashed or painted at intervals. There are no underground bakehouses.

Workshops:

These are few in number and small and part occupied by the owner. The sanitary provisions are on the premises or nearby.

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PESTS ACTS, 1949-1952

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Other	Total
Inspections	57	1,900	602	224	2,783
Infestations:					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	28	93	71	26	218
Mice (infestation)	-	8	4	-	12
Total treated	28	101	75	26	230

Conclusion:

The year 1956 brought further progress in the number of new houses, new water schemes, sewerage schemes, improvements with major housing repairs, reconditioning and conversion of houses under the Hill Farming Act which bring amenity to the District and a measure of satisfaction.

I am, Sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

District Medical
Officer of Health.

IDWAL ROBERTS,

M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.,
C.M. & Food I.

Public Health
Inspector.

Camlan Duplicating Service,
Glyndŵr, Dolgelley

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